

Smith, Diane

04

From: Bailey, Marc A [marc@lanl.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2013 3:41 PM
To: Smith, Diane
Cc: Saladen, Michael T; Chen, Isaac; Gallegos, Robert M; Medina, Louella B
Subject: LANL NPDESPERMIT NO. NM0028355, COMMENT ON DRAFT NPDES PERMIT ISSUED JUNE 29, 2013 WITH TABLES
Attachments: WITH Tables ENV-DO-13-0115-D Smith NPDES Permit No NM0028355 Comments on Draft NPDES Permit Issued June 29 2013 (2).pdf

Ms. Smith-

Attached (again) are DOE/LAN's comments on draft NPDES Permit No. NM0028355 for the Los Alamos National Laboratory. Tables 1-6 referenced in the comments were not attached to the original document sent to you on August 13, 2013, but are included here.

At approximately 10:45 a.m. the morning of August 13, 2013 we were evacuated from our building as the final review of the comments document was taking place. It became apparent that we could not get back into our offices for an extended period of time, so we recreated the document from a remote computer and had the cover letter re-signed in order to meet the comments eadline. During that confusion, Tables 1-6 were not included in Enclosure 1.

Please call if you have questions or need additional information.

Marc Bailey

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Date: **AUG 13 2013**  
Symbol: ENV-DO-13-0115  
LAUR: 13-26245

Ms. Diane Smith  
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Permit Processing Team (6W-NP)  
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Dear Ms. Smith:

**SUBJECT: LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY, NPDES PERMIT NO. NM0028355,  
COMMENTS ON DRAFT NPDES PERMIT ISSUED JUNE 29, 2013**

Enclosed are comments submitted by the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Los Alamos National Security, LLC (LANS) regarding the new draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for the wastewater treatment facilities at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. DOE/LANS wish to acknowledge the efforts of the EPA Region 6 staff, especially Isaac Chen, who prepared the new draft permit and documentation package.

Please enter this letter and the enclosed comments into the record of proceedings for NPDES Permit No. NM0028355. DOE/LANS respectively requests that EPA consider these comments and include the proposed revisions into the final permit. Please be assured that DOE/LANS are fully committed to comply with all requirements set forth in the final NPDES Permit.

Please contact Marc Bailey of the Laboratory's Environmental Compliance Programs (ENV-CP) by telephone at (505) 665-8135 or Gene Turner at (505) 667-5794 of the DOE Los Alamos Field Office if you have questions regarding these enclosed comments or if additional information would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Alison M. Dorries  
Division Leader  
Environmental Protection Division  
Los Alamos National Security, LLC

Sincerely,

Gene E. Turner  
Environmental Permitting Manager  
Environmental Projects Office  
Los Alamos Field Office  
Department of Energy

Ms. Diane Smith  
ENV-DO-13-0115

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AMD:GET:MS/lm

Enclosures: 1. Comments on draft NPDES Permit No. NM0028355 issued on June 29, 2013

Cy: James Hogan, NMED/SWQB, Santa Fe, NM, w/enc.  
Steven M. Yanicak, NMED/DOE/OB, w/enc., (E-File)  
Gene E. Turner, NA-OO-LA, w/enc., (E-File)  
Carl A. Beard, PADOPS, w/o enc., A102  
Michael T. Brandt, ADESH, w/o enc., (E-File)  
Alison M. Dorries, ENV-DO, w/o enc., (E-File)  
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### COMMENTS ON DRAFT NPDES PERMIT NO. NM0028355 ISSUED ON JUNE 29, 2013 8/13/13

#### General Comments:

1. The Department of Energy and Los Alamos National Security, LLC (DOE/LANS) support the EPA's proposed limitations on the use of the PCB congener method for reporting purposes only and not for enforcement purposes.

The draft permit properly excludes use of EPA Method 1668 for compliance purposes: it is not a 40 CFR Part 136-approved method. EPA issued a proposal (FR Vol. 75, No. 222, November 18, 2010) to incorporate the method into 40 CFR Part 136 and accepted comments addressing the validity of the method. EPA received comments from 35 respondents; only five (three states, one laboratory, and one laboratory organization) supported inclusion into Part 136. On May 18, 2012 EPA withdrew the proposed incorporation of the method (FR Vol. 77 No. 97, May 18, 2012).

Moreover, LANL is the only known facility in New Mexico where the congener method is being used to determine compliance with an NPDES permit limit. The proposal to use Method 1668 for monitoring and reporting only is consistent with all other New Mexico NPDES permits that specify use of the method.

As EPA notes, the NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau stated in a December 20, 2012 letter that "the State will condition the permit certification to require the use of Method 1668, most recent version thereof, with appropriate method specific MQLs, for purpose of PCB monitoring." DOE/LANS are submitting comments in opposition to the SWQB's proposed certification condition.

2. DOE/LANS request inclusion of schedules for compliance in the final permit, if necessary to address requirements incorporated into the final permit.

EPA and NMED have allowed, on a case-by-case basis, the inclusion of a schedule of compliance in NPDES permits issued to an existing facility (40 CFR 122.47 and 20.6.4.12.G NMAC, respectively). The schedule of compliance provides the permittee with adequate time to make necessary modifications to treatment systems and/or operations at the facility to comply with permit limits. DOE/LANS do not request a compliance schedule for specific requirements in the draft permit but will need to evaluate if compliance schedules are necessary to address any new or revised permit requirements incorporated into the final NPDES permit issued by EPA.

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Additionally, DOE/LANS request an opportunity to review and respond to requirements specified in the New Mexico 401 certification, and public comments or concerns submitted to EPA during the comment period prior to issuance of the final permit.

3. DOE/LANS request elimination of the requirements related to selenium at Outfalls 03A027, 03A048, and 03A199 because there is no reasonable potential (RP) for selenium water quality standard exceedances.

The fact sheet for the draft permit indicates an RP for selenium water quality standard exceedances at Outfalls 03A027, 03A048 and 03A199. The appearance of selenium in samples taken at LANL cooling towers is a false positive caused by bromine analytical interference. These cooling towers routinely use bromine as a biocide.

It has been well established that when using EPA Method 200.8 (ICP-MS) for selenium analyses and bromine is present in the waste stream, there will be a positive interference and selenium will appear to be present in the sample. DOE/LANS documented this occurrence in comments submitted to EPA in 2006 on the current permit. As a result, the DOE/LANS used SW 846 Method 7742 (included in Section G. Test Methods in Part II of the current permit) for selenium monitoring and reporting purposes during the existing permit monitoring period. However, during sampling, analyses and reporting for DOE/LANS's NPDES Reapplication Project (Summer/Fall 2011), some selenium results were reported on the EPA's application Form 2C using EPA Method 200.8. These results indicated the presence of selenium, but they are false positives due to the presence of bromine. Upon discovery of the false positives, split samples from Summer/Fall 2011 were sent to the analytical laboratory for selenium re-analysis using SW 846 7742. The split sample results confirm that selenium is not present in the samples (see Table 1). More recent sample results are also included in Table 1. Tables 3, 4, and 5 apply the data analyzed by SW 846 Method 7742 in the recalculation of the RP for selenium for Outfalls 03A027 (Table 3), 03A048 (Table 4), and 03A199 (Table 5). Based on the RP recalculations, there is no reasonable potential for selenium water quality standard exceedances at these outfalls. Therefore, DOE/LANS requests that the selenium requirements for these outfalls be deleted from the permit.

4. For the sake of clarity regarding electronic reporting requirements, DOE/LANS request that EPA delete Part I.B. Reporting of Monitoring Results (Major Discharges) from the draft permit, and retain only Part III.D.4 Discharge Monitoring Reports and Other Reports of this permit until the proposed NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule (FR/Vol. 78, No.146/July 30, 2013) is promulgated.

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Page 23 of Part I. B Reporting of Monitoring Results (Major Discharges) states, in part: “Monitoring information **shall be submitted electronically** [emphasis added] as specified in Part III.D.4 of this permit...”. On the other hand, Part III.D.4 Discharge Monitoring Reports and Other Reports states, in part: “Monitoring results must be reported to EPA on **either the electronic or paper** [emphasis added] Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) approved formats. Monitoring results **can be** [emphasis added] submitted in lieu of the paper DMR Form... ” These potentially conflicting provisions, if retained in the final permit, would leave it unclear as to whether and which monitoring results must be submitted electronically.

Additionally, on July 30, 2013 EPA the proposed “NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule” that would require electronic reporting for current paper-based NPDES Reports. Comments on this proposed rule must be received by October 28, 2013. It is not clear how the final version of this rule, if promulgated would affect the current draft permit requirements.

Deletion of Part I. B Reporting of Monitoring Results (Major Discharges) would allow DOE/LANS the option of reporting electronically or with paper until promulgation of the new rule provides clarity on EPA electronic reporting requirements.

5. DOE/LANS request reduction in sampling frequencies at Outfalls 051 and 03A160 to once-per-week based on low discharge volumes and frequencies, and NMIP guidelines.

Page 35, Table 10: Recommended Monitoring Frequencies for Industrial Wastewater Permits, of the EPA Region 6’s “Procedures for Implementing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits in New Mexico – NMIP” recommends sampling frequencies for conventional pollutants, nonconventional pollutants, metals and toxics at industrial sites, like Los Alamos National Laboratory. In particular, Table 10 in the NMIP recommends a sampling frequency of three per week for outfalls that discharge once per day, and recommends once per week sampling for outfalls (other than pH) that discharge once per week or less.

The Laboratory’s TA-50 Radioactive Waste Treatment Facility (RLWTF) has not discharged since November 2010 as a result of using the mechanical evaporator. Additionally, RLWTF has constructed two Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) tanks that can passively evaporate treated effluent. The ZLD tanks are currently being processed for permitting under the NMED’s Ground Water Discharge Permit program and are not currently in operation. Based on discharge records prior to November 2010, and with options of using the existing mechanical evaporator or new ZLD evaporation tanks, RLWTF would discharge to Outfall 051 only once or twice per week if evaporation is not an option.

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The cooling tower at TA-35 Building 124 (Outfall 03A160) discharges treated and untreated cooling water blow-down on an intermittent basis, based on the programmatic needs at the TA-35 National High Magnetic Field Laboratory (NHMFL). The TA-35 NHMFL cooling tower discharged an average of 6 times per month, with an average of 2700 gallons per discharge based on the flows recorded during the last year (July 2012 – June 2013). A typical discharge lasts only about 2-7 hours.

Sample frequencies of once-per-week are (1) adequate to demonstrate compliance with effluent limits and protection of human health and the environment at Outfalls 051 and 03A160, (2) more stringent than current permit requirements, and (3) consistent with NMIP guidelines.

6. DOE/LANS request the deletion of the WET monitoring and reporting requirements for Outfalls 001, 03A027, 03A160, and 03A199 based on past WET testing results.

The draft permit properly deletes Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) monitoring and reporting requirements for Outfalls 03A048, 03A113, 03A160, and 03A181. All four outfalls passed the required WET tests during the monitoring periods of the existing permit. WET monitoring and reporting requirements remain in the draft permit for Outfalls 001, 03A027, 03A160 and 03A199. The EPA Reasonable Potential (RP) Analyzer spreadsheets for Outfalls 001, 03A027, 03A160, and 03A199 indicate that an RP exists for these four outfalls, however, these four outfalls also passed the required WET tests during the monitoring periods of the existing permit, which demonstrated that treated discharges showed no observed lethal effect concentration in 100% effluent.

7. DOE/LANS request that the EPA notification and reporting requirements on Page 1 of Part II.B of the draft NPDES permit be consistent with the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission regulations. DOE/LANS recommends 24-hour notification and a **7-day** reporting requirements for overflows be incorporated into Part II.B 24-HOUR ORAL REPORTING section.

20.6.2.1203 NMAC requires submission of the same information regarding spills and overflows, a 24-hour oral notification requirement, and 7-day and 15-day written reports. As currently stated in the draft NPDES permit, EPA is generating an additional report (5-day) with the same information and no additional value.

8. DOE/LANS request EPA refrain from adding any new effluent limits into the final permit for Outfalls 05A055 and 051 at this time. Establishing new effluent limits prior to evaluating

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new data would be premature and not be representative of existing conditions and treatment at the facilities, and effluent quality discharged to the environment.

The TA-50 Radioactive Liquid Waste Treatment Facility (RLWTF) has not discharged to Outfall 051 since November 2010. Additionally, the TA-16 High Explosives Wastewater Treatment Facility (HEWTF) has not discharged to Outfall 05A055 since November 2007. As a result, DOE/LANS were unable to collect samples for Form 2C constituents at the time the permit re-application was submitted. In fact sheets of the permit re-application, DOE/LANS committed to collecting grab samples for the Form 2C constituents when the RLWTF and HEWTF discharge through the respective outfalls. DOE/LANS will submit these data to EPA and NMED on the Form 2C permit application, upon receipt of the data. These new data can be used to evaluate a reasonable potential for water quality standard exceedances. Page 3 of Part II.E. Reopener Clause, allows EPA to reopen and modify the permit during the life of the permit, in accordance with provisions in 40 CFR 122.62.

DOE/LANS request the opportunity to provide EPA with new data for Outfalls 051 and 05A055, if discharges through these outfalls are initiated during the life of the new permit. These data would be used by EPA to evaluate the reasonable potential of water quality standard exceedances, and to establish potential new effluent limits at the respective outfalls based on current treatment technology at the time of discharge.

#### Outfall Specific Comments:

##### **Outfall 001:**

1. DOE/LANS support that lack of aluminum monitoring and reporting requirements and notes that the “no RP” conclusion was based on proper sampling methods.

Page 1 of Part I.A Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements of the draft permit does not require aluminum monitoring and reporting at Outfall 001 because there is not a reasonable potential for a water quality standard exceedance. 20.6.4.900(I) (1) and (2) NMAC states that total recoverable aluminum criteria is based on samples that are filtered to minimize mineral phases. NMED SWQB (2013 Draft Assessment Protocol) concluded that a filter of 10µm pore size minimizes mineral-phase aluminum without restricting amorphous or colloidal phases. However, if turbidity of a sample is less than 30 NTU, no filtration is needed to minimize mineral phases. Samples with greater than 30 NTU must be filtered with 10µm disposable in-line capsule filter prior to analysis (SWQB Assessment Protocol – Public



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Draft 3/20/13). Turbidity at Outfall 001 is not greater than 30 NTU; therefore proper sampling methods were used.

2. Page 2 of Part I.A Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements of the draft permit requires Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) monitoring and reporting. DOE/LANS request the deletion of the WET monitoring and reporting requirements for Outfall 001 based on past WET testing results (no lethal effects to test species at or below the critical dilution of 100%). See General Comment #6.
3. Page 1 of Part I, top of page, should read OUTFALL 001 (TA-3-22).

#### **Outfall 13S:**

1. DOE/LANS request the Latitude/Longitude modification be incorporated into the permit to identify the change in sampling location. Page 3 of Part I of the draft permit identifies the discharge location for Outfall 13S at Latitude 35°51'08"N, Longitude 106°16'33"W. As stated in the 2012 NPDES permit re-application, the discharge location/sampling location for Outfall 13S is Latitude 35°51'08"N, Longitude 106°16'29"W. This is the location where Outfall 13S discharges into Canada del Buey.
2. Page 3 of Part I, top of page, should read: OUTFALL 13S - Sanitary Waste Water System (TA-46-347).
3. Public comments at the EPA Public Meeting on July 30, 2013 requested further information about composting activities at LANL. On August 15, 2012 the DOE/LANS notified EPA Region VI of its intent to compost and land apply biosolids at the Laboratory for beneficial use. The compost operation would take place at the Laboratory's TA-46 Sanitary Waste Water System (SWWS) Facility. Prior to initiating operations, the facility must register with the NMED's Solid Waste Bureau and provide a Notice of Intent to NMED's Ground Water Quality Bureau. The NOI and registration were submitted to NMED on July 31, 2012 and August 1, 2012 respectively. On December 21, 2012 DOE/LANS received a response from NMED suggesting the proposed land application would be surface disposal and not land application for beneficial use. LANS have consulted with NMED and intend to clarify and re-submit the NOI.

Upon approval of the composting operation and land application method by NMED, Part IV-Element 1 of the draft NPDES permit sets out requirements and conditions for preparation and reuse of biosolids (compost). The requirements are based on 40 CFR Part 503

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regulations – Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge. The conditions in Part IV of the draft NPDES permit include: ceiling concentrations for metals and PCBs; monitoring and testing requirements; pathogen control; vector attraction reduction; general conditions; management practices; and, notification requirements. The draft permit and existing state and federal requirements adequately protect human health and the environment. Therefore no additional monitoring and reporting should be required.

#### Outfall 051:

1. Public comments brought up at the EPA Public Meeting on July 30, 2013 requested further information regarding prior WET testing at RLWTF and recommended that this information be incorporated into the fact sheet for Outfall 051. DOE/LANS do not oppose this information being provided in the fact sheet and/or response to comments. Detailed information regarding prior WET testing and DOE/LANS's related corrective actions can be found in the quarterly compliance reports submitted to EPA from 2007 – 2013.
2. Page 5 of Part I, top of page, should read: OUTFALL 051 – Radioactive Liquid Waste Treatment Facility (TA-50-1).
3. DOE/LANS request the flow monitoring requirements be changed from continuous/record to an estimate/once-per-day basis. Page 5 of Part I.A Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements, of the draft permit requires the flow frequency be monitored continuously/record. RLWTF has not discharged since November 2010. If discharges to the Outfall 051 resume, it is estimated that RLWTF would only discharge intermittently under batch treatment and release. Flow is currently measured and reported based on tank volume discharge.
4. DOE/LANS request that the definition of "estimate" for Outfall 03A022 be incorporated into the draft permit for Outfall 051. Page 6 of Part I.A, bottom of page, should read: Flow Measurements, "Estimate" flow measurements shall not be subject to the accuracy provisions established at Part III.C.6. The daily flow value may be estimated using best engineering judgment.
5. DOE/LANS request the sampling frequencies for copper, zinc and hardness be changed to once-per-week. Page 5 of Part I.A Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements monitoring frequencies for copper and zinc have increased from once-per-month to three times per week. DOE/LANS request reduction in sampling frequencies for these constituents to once-per-week at Outfall 051 based on the NMIP. See General Comment #5.

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6. DOE/LANS request that the required 3-hr. composite WET test be replaced with a grab sample requirement. Page 6 of Part I.A Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements of the draft permit requires a 3-hr. composite sample be collected for the WET testing purposes. Typical flow durations for discharges from RLWTF through Outfall 051 only last approximately 1-1.5 hours. The NMIP sample type for once-per-week discharges at industrial outfalls is generally by grab and is appropriate here.

#### **Outfall 05A055:**

1. DOE/LANS request that the new permit retain "Estimate" for the flow monitoring requirement at Outfall 05A055. Page 7 of Part I.A Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements of the draft permit requirements for flow monitoring changed from "Estimate" (in the current permit) to "Record". The current permit defines "Estimate" as flow values that are be estimated using best engineering judgment. Outfall 05A055 has not discharged since November 2007. Typical discharges prior to November 2007 were low in volume and short in duration.

#### **Outfall 03A022:**

1. Page 9 of Part I authorizes Outfall 03A022 to discharge storm water and roof drain water to Mortandad Canyon. DOE/LANS request that the permit also incorporate once through cooling into the discharge description (for emergency use only) at the top of page 9 of Part I, as stated on page 11 of the fact sheet. Page 9 of Part I, top of page, should read: "During the period beginning the effective date of the permit and lasting through the expiration date of the permit (unless otherwise noted), the permittee is authorized to discharge storm water, **once through cooling (for emergency use only)**, and roof drain water to Mortandad Canyon, in segment 20.6.4.128 of the Rio Grande Basin. (Cooling tower blowdown is not authorized for discharge at this outfall.)."
2. DOE/LANS request the outfall be renamed "04A022". Historically, non-contact cooling water was categorized by the 04A designation. Outfall category 03A of the current permit is for treated cooling tower water discharges. The outfall description for 03A022 specifically states "Cooling tower blowdown is not authorized for discharge at this outfall." Therefore, the change of outfall name to 04A022 is more appropriate.

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#### Outfall 03A027:

1. EPA's RP calculation sheet documents an RP for selenium, but monitoring/reporting requirements and effluent limits are not incorporated into the draft permit. False positives for selenium at this cooling tower were caused by bromine analytical interference when using EPA Method 200.8. DOE/LANS request EPA not incorporate monitoring and reporting requirements or effluent limits in the permit for selenium at Outfall 03A027. See General Comment #3.
2. DOE/LANS request the deletion of the WET monitoring and reporting requirements for Outfall 03A027 based on past WET testing results (no lethal effects to test species at or below the critical dilution of 100%). See General Comment #6.
3. Page 15 of Part I Outfall description at top of page should delete the reference to cooling tower TA3-285. Cooling tower TA3-285 has been inoperable for years and was demolished in 2012.
4. DOE/LANS request the sample frequency for E Coli be changed to two-per-month, as indicated in the fact sheet. Page 15 of Part I.A of the draft permit specifies an E. Coli monitoring frequency of two-per-week. However, page 11 (3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph) of the fact sheet states: "E. coli - Monitoring requirements and effluent limitations apply at Outfalls 001, 13S, or 03A027 where final treated sanitary wastewater actually discharges. The monitoring frequency is 2-per-month based on the frequency recommended in the NMIP for a municipal facility with activated sludge technology and a design flow of  $0.1 < 0.5$  MGD."

#### Outfall 03A048:

1. Page 17 of Part I.A Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements of the draft permit require selenium monitoring of three-per-week, with a monthly average and daily maximum effluent limits of 5.0 mg/l. DOE/LANS request the monitoring/reporting requirements and the effluent limits for selenium be deleted based on false positive results using Method 200.8. See General Comment #3.

#### Outfall 03A160:

1. DOE/LANS request deletion of cyanide requirements at Outfall 03A160. Page 19 of Part I Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements of the draft permit requires three-per-week monitoring and reporting, and contains a permit limit of 5.2 mg/l for cyanide. Cyanide

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is not used in operations of the cooling tower. The cyanide levels may have been a result of impacts from flying ash during the Las Conchas fire being deposited in the cooling tower. The cooling tower was off-line for an extended period of time during the fire and ash may have deposited in the cooling tower basin. The sample submitted for the re-application was collected shortly after the fire (July 18, 2011). Additional cyanide samples recently collected at 03A160 do not confirm the result from the July 18, 2011 sample. Table 2 contains the data collected after the permit application was submitted. When applying guidelines in the NMIP for additional samples, the geometric mean of the samples demonstrates that cyanide RP does not exist (see Table 6). In the alternative, if EPA retains cyanide requirements, DOE/LANS request a reduction in sampling frequency to once-per-week at Outfall 03A160.

2. Page 19 of Part I.A Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements of the draft permit requires a monitoring frequency for copper at three times per week. DOE/LANS request a reduction in sampling frequency to once-per-week at Outfall 03A160 based on NMIP. See General Comment #5.
3. Page 19 of Part I.A Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements requires WET monitoring at Outfall 03A160. DOE/LANS request the deletion of the WET monitoring and reporting requirements for Outfall 03A160 based on past WET testing results (no lethal effects to test species at or below the critical dilution of 100%). See General Comment #6.

#### **Outfall 03A199:**

1. EPA's Fact Sheet and RP calculation sheets documents an RP for selenium at Outfall 03A199, but monitoring/reporting requirements and effluent limits are not incorporated into the draft permit. False positives for selenium at this cooling tower were caused by bromine analytical interference. DOE/LANS request EPA not incorporate monitoring and reporting requirements or effluent limits in the permit for selenium at Outfall 03A199. See General Comment #3 Tables 1 and 5.
2. EPA's Fact Sheet and RP calculation sheets documents an RP for cyanide at Outfall 03A199 but monitoring/reporting requirements and effluent limits are not incorporated into the draft permit. The cyanide result in EPA's RP calculation sheet is documented at 13.6 µg/l. However, the NPDES Re-applications Form 2C documents a non-detect analytical result for cyanide (< 1.5 µg/l). DOE/LANS request that EPA not include monitoring and reporting requirements or permit requirements for cyanide because no reasonable potential exists (see Table 2 and 5).

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3. EPA's RP calculation sheet documents a reasonable potential for copper at Outfall 03A199, but monitoring/reporting requirements and effluent limits are not incorporated into the draft permit. Based on the copper result of 13.2 µg/l and a hardness of 122 mg/l in the permit re-application Form 2C, the potential effluent limit should be 26.7 µg/l.
4. DOE/LANS request the deletion of the WET monitoring and reporting requirements for Outfall 03A199 based on past WET testing results (no lethal effects to test species at or below the critical dilution of 100%). See General Comment #6.

TABLE 1

**Selenium Data**  
**Outfalls 03A027, 03A048, 03A113, and 03A199**

| Outfall | Field Sample ID      | Chain Of Custody No. | Date Sampled | Parameter Name | Result  | Report Units | Lab Qualifier | Detected | Analytical Method | Lab  |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------|---------|--------------|---------------|----------|-------------------|------|
| 03A027* | NPDES03A027-11-13855 | 12-358               | 11/16/2011   | selenium       | 11.8    | ug/L         |               | Y        | EPA-200.8         | GEL  |
|         | NPDES03A027-11-13855 | 12-356               | 11/16/2011   | selenium       | 1.02    | ug/L         | N             | Y        | SW-846:7742M      | SwRI |
| 03A048* | NPDES03A048-11-13856 | 433119               | 8/8/2011     | selenium       | 2.8     | ug/L         | J             | Y        | EPA-200.8         | GEL  |
|         | NPDES03A048-11-13856 | 458320               | 8/8/2011     | selenium       | 0.922   | ug/L         | B             | Y        | SW-846:7742       | SwRI |
| 03A048* | NP048-13-38787       | 2013-1107            | 7/10/2013    | selenium       | 5.95    | ug/L         |               | y        | 200.8             | GEL  |
|         | NP048-13-38787       | 2013-1109            | 7/10/2013    | selenium       | 1.00    | ug/L         |               | y        | SW-846:7742       | SwRI |
| 03A048* | NP048-13-39240       | 2013-1231            | 7/18/2013    | selenium       | 10.5    | ug/L         |               | y        | 200.8             | GEL  |
|         | NP048-13-39241       | 2013-1232            | 7/18/2013    | selenium       | 0.841   | ug/L         | B             | Y        | SW-846:7742       | SwRI |
| 03A048* | NP048-13-39242       | 2013-1295            | 7/22/2013    | selenium       | 4.88    | ug/L         | J             | Y        | 200.8             | GEL  |
|         | NP048-13-39243       | 2013-1301            | 7/22/2013    | selenium       | 0.88    | ug/L         | B             | Y        | SW-846:7742       | SwRI |
| 03A048* | NP048-13-39249       | 2013-1327            | 7/24/2013    | selenium       | < 1.50  | ug/L         | U             | N        | 200.8             | GEL  |
|         | NP048-13-39244       | 2013-1328            | 7/24/2013    | selenium       | 0.83    | ug/L         |               | Y        | SW-846:7742       | SwRI |
| 03A048* | NP048-13-39245       | 2013-1381            | 7/29/2013    | selenium       | 15.10   | ug/L         |               | Y        | 200.8             | GEL  |
|         | NP048-13-39248       | 2013-1382            | 7/29/2013    | selenium       | 1.01    | ug/L         |               | Y        | SW-846:7742       | SwRI |
| 03A048* | NP048-13-39246       | 2013-1440            | 7/31/2013    | selenium       | 9.64    | ug/L         |               | Y        | 200.8             | GEL  |
|         | NP048-13-39247       | 2013-1441            | 7/31/2013    | selenium       | 0.81    | ug/L         |               | Y        | SW-846:7742       | SwRI |
| 03A113* | NPDES03A113-11-13857 | 543422               | 8/31/2011    | selenium       | < 1.5** | ug/L         | U             | N        | EPA:200.8         | GEL  |
|         | NPDES03A113-11-13857 | 544153               | 8/31/2011    | selenium       | 0.473   | ug/L         | B             | Y        | SW-846:7742       | SwRI |
| 03A199* | NPDES03A199-11-13860 | 543422               | 8/31/2011    | selenium       | 5.2     | ug/L         |               | Y        | EPA:200.8         | GEL  |
|         | NPDES03A199-11-13860 | 544153               | 8/31/2011    | selenium       | 0.856   | ug/L         | B             | Y        | SW-846:7742       | SwRI |
| 03A199* | NP199-13-39283       | 2013-1234            | 7/18/2013    | selenium       | 5.01    | ug/L         |               | y        | EPA:200.8         | GEL  |
|         | NP199-13-39288       | 2013-1235            | 7/18/2013    | selenium       | 0.856   | ug/L         | B             | Y        | SW-846:7742       | SwRI |
| 03A199* | NP199-13-39284       | 2013-1295            | 7/22/2013    | selenium       | 2.82    | ug/L         | J             | Y        | EPA:200.8         | GEL  |
|         | NP199-13-39289       | 2013-1301            | 7/22/2013    | selenium       | 0.745   | ug/L         | B             | Y        | SW-846:7742       | SwRI |
| 03A199* | NP199-13-39286       | 2013-1381            | 7/29/2013    | selenium       | 3.07    | ug/L         | J             | Y        | EPA:200.8         | GEL  |
|         | NP199-13-39291       | 2013-1382            | 7/29/2013    | selenium       | 0.732   | ug/L         | B             | Y        | SW-846:7742       | SwRI |
| 03A199* | NP199-13-39287       | 2013-1440            | 7/31/2013    | selenium       | 1.97    | ug/L         | J             | Y        | EPA:200.8         | GEL  |
|         | NP199-13-39292       | 2013-1441            | 7/31/2013    | selenium       | 0.754   | ug/L         | B             |          | SW-846:7742       | SwRI |

\* Bromine used at Outfalls 03A027, 03A048, 03A113, 03A199

#.# Reported on Form 2C-positive interference

\*\* No RP- Recalculation unnecessary

#.### Use to recalculate RP

TABLE 2

**Cyanide Data  
Outfalls 03A160 and 03A199**

| Outfall | Field Sample ID      | Chain Of Custody No. | Date Sampled | Parameter Name  | Report Result | Screening Value (per NMIP) | Report Units | Lab Qualifier | Detected | Analytical Method | Lab |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|----------|-------------------|-----|
| 03A160  | NPDES03A160-11-13858 | 349844               | 7/18/2011    | Cyanide (Total) | 0.0136        | 0.0136                     | mg/L         |               | Y        | EPA:335.4         | GEL |
| 03A160  | NP160-13-39230       | 2013-1231            | 7/18/2013    | Cyanide         | < 0.00167     | 0.000835                   | mg/L         | U             | N        | 335.4             | GEL |
| 03A160  | NP160-13-39231       | 2013-1295            | 7/22/2013    | Cyanide         | < 0.00167     | 0.000835                   | mg/L         | U             | N        | 335.4             | GEL |
| 03A160  | NP160-13-39232       | 2013-1327            | 7/24/2013    | Cyanide         | < 0.00167     | 0.000835                   | mg/L         | U             | N        | 335.4             | GEL |
| 03A160  | NP160-13-39233       | 2013-1381            | 7/29/2013    | Cyanide         | 0.00234       | 0.00234                    | mg/L         | J             | Y        | 335.4             | GEL |
| 03A160  | NP160-13-39234       | 2013-1440            | 7/31/2013    | Cyanide         | < 0.00167     | 0.000835                   | mg/L         | U             | N        | 335.4             | GEL |

Geometric Mean\*: 0.00157852 mg/L

| Outfall | Field Sample ID      | Chain Of Custody No. | Date Sampled | Parameter Name  | Report Result | Report Units | Lab Qualifier | Detected | Analytical Method | Lab |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|----------|-------------------|-----|
| 03A199  | NPDES03A199-11-13860 | 543422               | 8/31/2011    | Cyanide (Total) | < 0.0015**    | mg/L         | U             | N        | EPA:335.4         | GEL |
| 03A199  | NP199-13-39283       | 2013-1234            | 7/18/2013    | Cyanide         | ND            | ug/L         | U             | N        | 335.4             | GEL |
| 03A199  | NP199-13-39284       | 2013-1295            | 7/22/2013    | Cyanide         | ND            | ug/L         | U             | N        | 335.4             | GEL |
| 03A199  | NP199-13-39285       | 2013-1327            | 7/24/2013    | Cyanide         | ND            | ug/L         | U             | N        | 335.4             | GEL |
| 03A199  | NP199-13-39286       | 2013-1381            | 7/29/2013    | Cyanide         | ND            | ug/L         | U             | N        | 335.4             | GEL |
| 03A199  | NP199-13-39287       | 2013-1440            | 7/31/2013    | Cyanide         | ND            | ug/L         | U             | N        | 335.4             | GEL |

#.### Reported on Form 2C

\* Geometric mean used in RP calculation in Table 6

\*\* RP calculation for 03A199 has 13.6 ug/L entered for CN result which is the value used in the 03A160 RP calculation



**Outfall 03A027**  
**Original EPA Region 6 RP Spreadsheet Using 11.8 ug/L Selenium**

Recommend no permit limit for selenium.

Outfall 03A048  
Original EPA Region 6 Spreadsheet using 2.8 ug/L Selenium Value

**RP Spreadsheet  
Using 0.922 ug/L  
Value for  
Selenium  
(Method 7742).  
No RP for  
Selenium.**

[illegible]

**Recommend no  
permit limit for  
selenium**

**Outfall 03A199 Ephemeral**  
**Original EPA Region 6 RP Spreadsheet Using 5.2 ug/L**  
**Seleium and 13.6 ug/L Cyanide Values**

RP Spreadsheet Using 0.856 ug/L Value for Selenium (Method 7742) and 0.0 ug/L value for Cyanide (as reported in reapplication). No RP for Selenium. No RP for Cyanide.

[illegible]

## Recommend no permit limits for selenium and cyanide

**Outfall 03A160**  
**Original EPA Region 6 Spreadsheet Using 13.6 ug/L Cyanide Value**

Recommend no  
permit limit for  
cyanide